वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बोल्ला बुल्ली रमैया): क) से (ग) जी, हां। टायर उद्योग के प्रतिवेदन की जांच की जा रही है तथा जैसे ही इस पर कोई निर्णय लिया जाता है, इसकी घोषणा अधिसूचना के जरिए की जाएगी।

Inclusion of Indian Units in the U.S. watch list

1426. SHRI E. BALANANDAN:
SHRI JIBON ROY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem relating to unilateral US decision to include dozens of Indian units in the watch list violating World Trade Organisation regulations;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken up the issue with the US Government; and

(c) if so, details of the result achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) The US Commerce Department has notified a list of foreign end users including four Indian units viz. Bharat Electronics. Ltd. (BEL), Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research and Indian Rare Earths Ltd., Under US domestic legislation pertaining to US non-proliferation concerns. Following this notification, all imports from the US by these organisations will be under licence procedures. The Government has taken up the matter with the US authorities. India's opposition to such ad hoc discriminatory export control regimes has been reiterated to the US Government. Indis's exemplary record is not permitting export of these items to countries where it could be used for non-civilan purposes has been pointed out.

Abnormal Rise in Tea Prices

1427. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for abnormal rise in the prices of tea in the last two months; and

(b) steps taken to bring down the tea prices to normal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) Reasons for upward trend in tea prices are increase in global demand for tea including demand for Indian tea and shortfall in tea production in countries like Kenya and Sri Lanka. Increase in the prices is not only at Indian auctions but also at other auction centres like Colombo and Mombasa.

(b) Prices of tea are not controlled. These are determined by demand and supply position in the market. However, in order to stabilise the prices, Tea Board has held discussions with the tea industry on the current tea price situation. The industry has been advised to ensure availability of sufficient tea in the market and gstrict compliance with the Tea Marketing (Control) Order 1984. A close watch is being kept on the situation.

Functioning of Market Development Assistance

1428. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) how is the functioning of the Market Development Fund now called the Market Development Assistance;

(b) what are the achievements of the MDA; and

(c) what steps will be taken to improve the functioning of MDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) Market Development Assistance